MAY 1 1 2001 =

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device for guiding a continuous strip past a marking unit, which is arranged to non-mechanically provide markings on at least one strip surface, includes a longitudinal channel for receiving the strip. The channel is at least partly defined by guiding elements that are arranged for abutment against the strip from opposite sides of the channel. At least one of the guiding elements is displaceable and biased towards the channel. In this device, the strip can be positioned with high-precision without being subjected to excessive frictional forces during the marking operation, to minimize any interference with the motion of the strip.